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COOPER'S

#24--SPRING ISSUE--1971

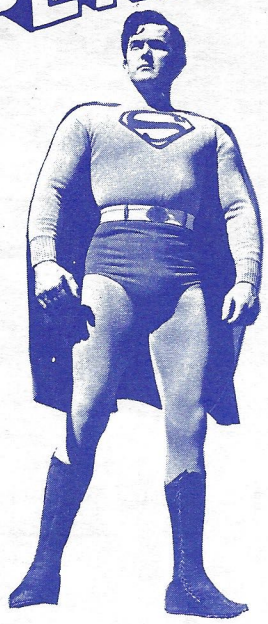
HERO HOBBY



★ BROADCASTING ★ MOTION PICTURES ★ CARTOON ART ★ MAGIC

HEY! LOOK WHAT WE'VE GOT FOR

SUPERMAN



IN PERSON
All 4 Days!!

"The last of the Serial Kings!!"

KIRK ALYN

JUNE 17-20

Comic Books



STAR TREK

THE MENAGERIE (2 parter) will be shown and auctioned off to the highest bidder!





ZORRO RIDES AGAIN

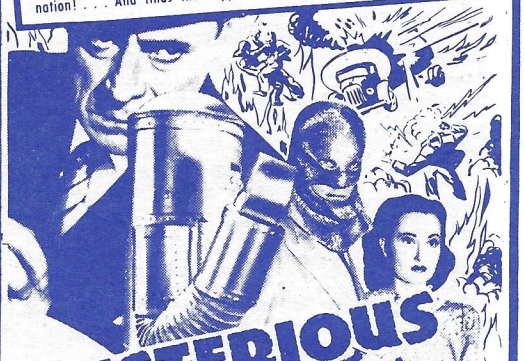
A Republic SERIAL IN 12 CHAPTERS

Infantino

The one and only Carmine Infantino---- artist of the Flash, Batman & dozens more will be our pro artist Guest of Honor!!!

CRAZED WITH THE LUST TO KILL!

A power-mad maniac unleashes a lightning attack on an unsuspecting nation! . . . And finds the Copperhead thirsting for revenge!



MYSTERIOUS DOCTOR SATAN

EDWARD CIANNELLI
ROBERT WILCOX-WILLIAM NEWELL
C. MONTAGUE SHAW-ELLA NEAL
DOROTHY HERBERT

A REPUBLIC SERIAL IN 15 CHAPTERS

BROADCASTING MOTION PICTURES CARTOON ART MAGIC



RIGHT THIS WAY



SPRING ISSUE-#24-1971 by John R. Cooper

After such a winter we've had here in West Virginia, anything would make me laugh, almost..anyway. That funny guy Bob Orben who I've tried to get to run a series of ads in our publication for many years...at least mailed me a bunch of jokes to publish with these pages. He said try 'em out on your readers. Since he's a high-class joke writer of such high-class television shows as the Red Skelton program,etc...this high-class magazine will be just the place for his stuff. For instance:

"I love this time of year. Spring is when people do crazy things. I saw a fella with a bumper sticker on his car. You know the kind. It says: MAKE LOVE, NOT WAR. I said, "Are you a pacifist?" He said, "No, an obstetrician!"

"Spring is when the furnace repairmen...leave for the French Riviera..and the air-conditioning repairmen..return."

"Teenage Housekeeping: Kids today are very concerned about ecology. Yesterday my teenager said, "We have to do something about cleaning up the enviroment!" I said, "Great! Let's start with your room!" You should see his room--and he won't let anyone touch it. He says, "Leave it alone. I know where everything is." And he does. It's on the floor! One time we bought him a vacuum cleaner and it threw up! Every time I see the Statue of Liberty, I think of my kid...He has a book in his hand but I've never seen it open.

"Did you know they were selling Hot Pants as Mother's Day gifts? It's ridiculous. The only one who should give mother Hot Pants is father!

TIME NOW TO PUT OUT MY GARDEN: "I never realized how much work there was. You show me any garden and If the flowers look like Heaven---the gardener looks like the other place!"

"I had the kid next door cut my lawn---$15! I said.."$15 to cut my lawn? What did you use--cuticle scissors?" And you should see the job he did. Cut? It wasn't even bruised!

AND THOSE NEW CHILDREN'S STORIES..: "The first thing you have to overcome when reading those new books to your five year old--is nausea. Have you seen any of these children's books? They're all about Jane, Dick and Spot. Spot is a dog---and Jane is nothing to brag about either. But,you get involved in the stories. I read one--Jane likes bread. Jane likes oatmeal. Jane likes ice cream. Jane likes pickles. You don't think? Naaahhhh! I like the story where they go to Mexico and Dick drinks the water. It's called..RUN,DICK,RUN.!"

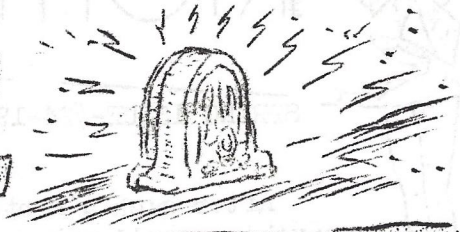
It's enough to drive you sane! So we'll stop. We hope from 1529 East 19th St., Brooklyn,New York,11230, that mad gagster keeps sending us stuff. That is, until he finally gets that last steel bar sawed through that little square window//.!

Talking about kids...oh were we?---and If we do again, remind me to mention that Dale Hale, assistant to Charles Shulz cleared up a sticky fact that indeed his boss DOES DO all the daily and Sunday artwork on PEANUTS. Dale gets to do Dell color-book stuff, as Schulz's assistant, and other valuable full-time work around the studio such as, wrap the strips for mailing, mailing the strips, dusts off the drawing board, feed the horses, answer the phone..but the strips....not a chance!

COVER: Chuck Schaden, interviewing radio's first "Little Orphan Annie", Shirley Bell Cole. Chuck's delightful feature story, begins on the next page.

HERO HOBBY MAGAZINE, Route One, Box 371, CLARKSBURG, WEST VIRGINIA, 26301

Chuck Schaden's THOSE WERE



The sounds of the great white horse, Silver, creaking door, McGee's closet, Benny's vault, The Shadow's errie laugh...

Many of us collect reels of tape with radio programs there-on from those golden days of the 30's,40's,50's...and other than play them or trade with other collectors around the world, on a reel for reel trade-set up, we can't much match the fun Chuck Schaden has with all of this.

Chuck in reality, is a mild-mannered newspaper editor, the 36-year old executive of the northwest side Press Newspaper Group. A radio fan from the early 1950's when television put the lid on original comedy and drama on radio, he has been conducting a personal revived era of radio as it "used to be"...when "those were the days"...on radio station WLTD-AM (1590) since last February. Playing regularly scheduled old-time radio, and especially the new personally taped interviews with such stars of radio as Jack Benny, Milton Berle, Tony Randall, Hans Conried, Freddy Martin, and others, Chuck has been cited as a good-guy of old radio in the pages of Newsweek, and in the Chicago daily newspapers. "I don't know how much of an authority I am", he says,"But I just love good old radio, and I'm glad to be able to share my interest with others." And the Evanston, Illinois area listeners love him for it.

BERGEN & MCCARTHY, FITCH BANDWAGON,LUX RADIO THEATRE,McGEE & MOLLY, BOB HOPE, KAY KYSER, MR.&MRS.NORTH, KRAFT MUSIC HALL ,CRIME PHOTOGRAPHER, KATE SMITH, THIS IS YOUR F.B.I.,NATIONAL BARN DANCE, YOUR HIT PARADE and I LOVE A MYSTERY, are some of the lead off shows Church featured at first.

Then when things started rolling, other shows were broadcast to the many fans who snowed under the station with letters of appreciation. Three extra hours had to be hustled-up and featured, after the first AL JOLSON material was played. Those who remembered "Jolly", and the new fans also, simply wanted more!

ADVENTURES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES, sponsored by Bromo Quinine tablers, featured Basil Rathbone as Holmes and Nigel Bruce as Dr.Watson,who tells the story. The "Missing Submarine Plans" was the story heard.

MOLLE MYSTERY THEATRE, sponsored by Molle Shaving Cream and Double Dandereen was the creepy story "The Creeper", remember the story, that unknown red-headed women strangler who leaves a note after each killing.."For Heaven's Sake...catch me before I kill more.." A thrilling suspense-chiller! This was an original broadcast from March 29, 1946...

Or--how about some comedy...? The BOB HOPE Pepsodent Show, "This is Bob-broadcasting from Woodland Hills,California, where the deer and the real estate agents play..Hope." Les Brown and his orchestra, Trudy Irwin, guest Fred Astaire...Jerry Colonna calling from Washington D.C. where he is at the Burea of Internal Revenue watching the returns come in...(?)..and Honorary Mayor of Palm Springs is present too..Miss Vera Vague(Barbara Jo Allen), Bob and Fred do a take-off on Fred's new movie "Easter Parade"...about a pair of two down-and-out vaudevillians....this show originally heard via NBC February 17,1948 and is as funny today as it was then..and no wonder...since the writers of that

highly rated show all those years, on Tuesday night at 10:00 PM EST., ten or twelve writers on a single show, turn out about 90-minutes worth of material actually played before an audience..played back, analyzed by Hope, and his crew...everything that missed, pulled out, then and only then is the show tight enough for the live broadcast...which sounds..and was..as tight as a wound-up clock, and so was the

THE DAYS

cast..at airtime with their closely-tailored scripts. This was "live" radio as .....we knew it. And here is an Idea of what Chuck was giving them this past winter....:

In September, a good start was "For and About Kids"...complete episodes of TOM MIX, Superman, Hop Harrigan, Boby Benson of the B-Bar-B Riders with Don Knotts co-starring then on Mutual, Jack Armstrong, later known as ARMSTRONG Of The S.B.I., the Blue Beetle, and segments from those and others.

October was more of Al Jolson, "The Whistler", "Blondie", some segments from a few Bob Hope shows. Comedy and music was featured. Stan Freberg, as Stan struggled to keep his wild comedy show on radio in radio's last gasping days. Bob & Ray, Bob Newhart, Glenn Miller, Kay Kyser, Clyde McCoy, Bing Crosby. Also SPOOKY STUFF...since it was the Halloween season. As noted on his special flyer-sheets...Orson Welles MERCURY THEATRE ON THE AIR, and the classic "War Of The Worlds"...presented"on our special ghost-to-ghost network." Suspense mysteries: "The Body Snatchers" and "Frankenstein".

, November featured "Hooray for Hollywood"...excerpts and programs from Radio's "Silver Screen"...Mickey Rooney in "The Human Comedy", Ginger Roger's in "Kitty Forle"..Charles Coburn in "The Devil and Miss Jones"..."Tom Corbett, Space Cadet, started off an Outer Space special show...and a "First Annual Thanksgiving Program" gave thanks...to those of radio that gave us memorable moments in the land of golden-sounds....with Jack Benny's Thanksgiving show,and Edgar Bergen/Charlie McCarthy program featuring guest Margaret O'Brien.

Chuck also had some other top formats for programs during the return to those thrillingdays of yesterday...

COMIC STRIP HEROES--Mandrake the Magician, Smilin' Jack, Dick Tracy...with that favorite show when Bing Crosby was Tracy, Dianah Shore was Tess Truhart, Bob Hope was Flattop, Frank Sinatra as Shakey, Cass Daley as Gravel Gertie, among the bevy of stars therin not noted for lack of space here.

MYSTERY & EXCITEMENT----The Mysterious Traveler, I Love A Mystery, etc.

DICK POWELL DOES HIS THING---Dick as RICHARD DIAMOND,private detective, with Joan Blondell in the MISS PINKERTON,INC..series show, and musically with Martha Tilton in a Campana Serenade broadcast that in 1943 advertised it all "coast-to-coast from Hollywood".

RADIO'S PRIVATE EYES---remember, those sounds, dramatically coming from the green eye on your old radio set: "YOURS TRULY,JOHNNY DOLLAR"...."THE ADVENTURES OF SAM SPADE"..."MR.KEEN, TRACER OF LOST PERSONS"....

DECEMBER was easy radio-time listening: ..... Chuck presented among the wonderful "Programs to Trim Your Christmas Tree By"...Fibber McGee and

Molly getting a Christmas job at the BonTon Department Store, Boston Blackie foiling a Christmas Eve jewelry store robbery. Ralph Edwards presenting an unforgettable Christmas broadcast of "Truth Or Consquences", Eddie Cantor visits Santa Claus. The AMOS & ANDY Christmas segment. George Burns and Gracie Allen search for Santa's bag of toys, which has just been stolen. Jack Benny and Mary Livingston go Christmas Shopping. Duffy's Tavern special show co-starring Jeff Chandler. And to top it off, the classic of them all, Lionel Barrymore as Ebeneezer Scrooge in Charles Dicken's.."A Christmas Carol."

JANUARY: And A Happy New Year with "New Year's Nightmare" from the "MYSTERIOUS TRAVELER". "The 32nd. of December"..from the SUSPENSE show.

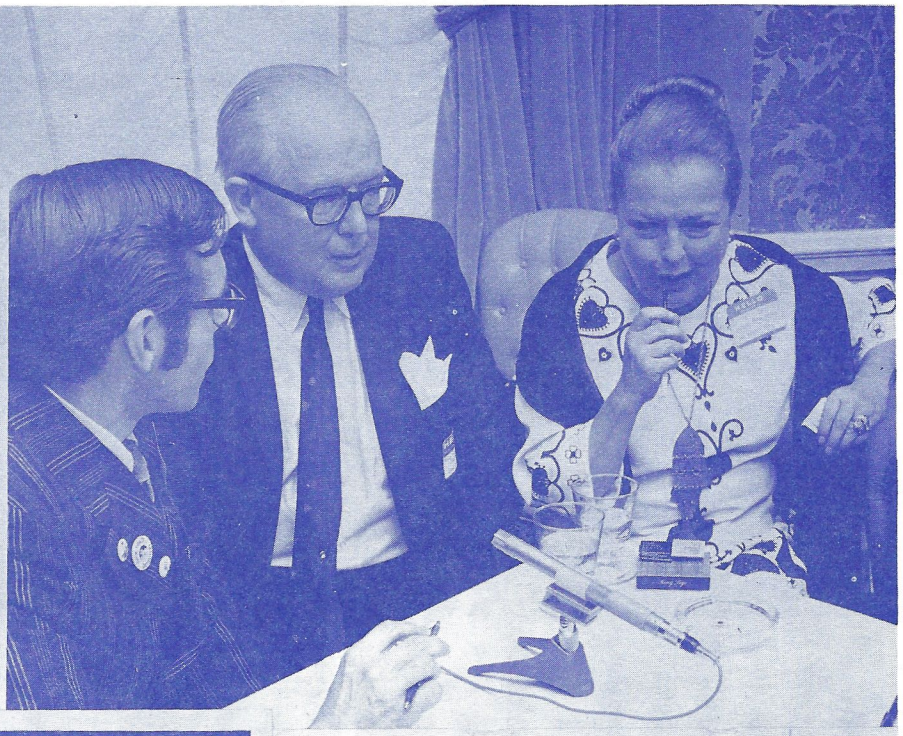
Then, February featured RADIO'S FOURTH ESTATE: Walter Winchell, THE BIG STORY radio dramas, vintage news broadcasts, from WW2, Gabriel Heater, Chet Huntley, Edward R.Murrow, and FROM OUT OF THE WEST, there was a special show of radio's golden west stars, GUNSMOKE, WILD BILL ELLIOTT show, others. FOR MOM AND THE KIDS, Captain Midnight, Orphan Annie, Sgt.Preston of the Yukon, the other daily shows that Mom listened to were represented here, the one's she tuned-in to each morning and afternoon...Stella Dallas, Ma Perkins, Aunt Jenny, Just Plain Bill, Vic & Sade, The Guiding Light, Young Doctor Malone,Pepper Young's Family, One Man's Family, The Road Of Life, The Romance of Helen Trent...that was before us kids got in from school and grabbed the radio for"our" 15-minute visits with our friends, Terry & The Pirates, The Lone Ranger, Sky King, Buck Rogers, among so many.

This will give you collectors and hard-core fans that read HeroHobby each issue, the format that Chuck used for his special broadcast schedules. I am sure it will give you fellows lots of Ideas, after you read this. We salute Chuck Schaden for trying to let others know....what they missed If they were born too late to have missed radio-broadcasting, when it was more than just a modern juke-box with newscasts. And to those...and yes, there are those that don't know that many of us do collect and have so many of the broadcasts that we do in collections on tapes, the general public, Mr.Average American, who thrills to hear those programs again..it is a wonderful experience all over again. It means great memories and pure entertainment to those of us that grew up with these "old and dear friends" of radio. The characters we knew perhaps better than the neighbors next door, Mr.& Mrs.McGee, Tom (Curley Bradley)Mix, etc. And to those younger than us..who did not know these people, these radio characters...it is a bit of newly discovered entertainment...a mysterious unknown bit of fun. It is what the"younger-generation" call..."camp"....because they just don't understand. Let's face it. It's as usueless as a cat trying to tell the world why it likes catnip. Chuck Schaden, of 8939 N.Marion Avenue, Morton Grove, Illinois 60053, you know what you're doing, don't you? We know where it's at! (End)

***** ****** *****

Chuck Schaden--is seen here interviewing Tony Randall,who played Reggie York on the "I Love A Mystery" show. And with John Gannon and Sarajane Wells, the "Billy, and Betty Fairfield" on the "JACK ARMSTRONG" program(brought to us by"General Mills, makers of Wheaties, in that orange and blue box"..so said announcer, Franklyn McCormack.) bottom row of pics(L. to R.) interviewing Jack Benny whose Sunday evening Jell0-Chesterfield show was a constant high-rating comedy show. And finally, a secret message whispered to Chuck by Paul Barnes, the final actor to portray "CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT" om Mutual's long-time running serial-play. Immediately after the photo was taken, we wonder If Chuck hustled out his Ovaltine Capt.Midnight Secret Squadron Decoder and quickly found out what SS-1 had just secretly told him? And then too--those decoders are quite valuable these days..you don't happen to have an extra one on you, do you Chuck?

















H. McKee Barkley (R.) (Grandson of McKee Barkley, long-time Baltimore Sun cartoonist, presented [illegible] with a walking stick carved into a political cartoon by his grandfather.

In April, 1968, the National Cartoonist Society had a get-together at CH. This candid shot shows some in attendance: (L to R) Leslie Turner (Capt Easy), Frank King (now deceased, Gasoline Alley), Dick Moores (Gas. Alley) Chas. Kuhn (Grandma), Ray Helle (The Flibbertigibs), Jack Bodine, [illegible] assistant on Dick Tracy. (Dick, Sr. is hidden [illegible])

... the first, the one and only! THE CARTOON MUSEUM ...

-by JIM IVEY, 561 Obispo Ave. Orlando, Florida-32807

Finding myself with the freedom that freelance cartooning brings, and finding myself on a Florida beach in 1967, I decided to follow through on an idea that had been kicking around in my head for years. As a collector of original art all of my pro cartooning years, I thought these treasures should be seen by the general public.

True--there have been occasional exhibitions of cartoon-art selections from my collection, for example, went on a 3-year tour of museum and universities. Also, universities are building collections, such as the fine Albert T. Reid Collection at the U.of Kansas. But there was no institution devoted to exhibiting original cartoon art of all types, from all periods and all countries. So The Cartoon Museum came into being to fill the void.

The Tampa Tribune's Sunday magazine "Accent" said,"There's so much funny stuff in the Cartoon Museum that it isn't even funny. Jim Ivey, a cartoonist for 20 years has collected about 2,500 examples of the cartooning art from 40 countries and put them in a high-ceilinged,glass-fronted gallery on Gulf Boulevard. He charges 50-cents to come in and browse,and It's worth it. There are so many of the cartoons that some visitors get weary of cranking up fresh laughs at each one; they give a sort of collective chuckle every five steps or so when the pressure of mirth builds up."

But there was more than laughter in the Cartoon Museum. All facets of cartooning was there. Original comic-strip art, magazine gags, sports cartoons,animation art, adventure strips from comic-books, daily strips, and one could grin and frown at the world's foibles seen in three centuries of political cartooning.

I believe I have compiled one of the world's finer and better collections. I gathered great items while working on newspapers in Washington D.C., San Francisco and Florida. Much of the foreign material was gathered while on a fellowship in Europe. This still is a growing collection, eventually to be donated to a suitable art or academic institution.

Collections grow by requesting originals from colleagues, swapping with the few serious collectors or, all else failing, by purchases. Early originals can run into real money. Sometimes one gets originals as a free gift. O.P.William's daughter, Mrs.W.G.Pape, offered me one of her father's cartoons after seeing an exhibit of cartoons from my collection. Sad to say, that when relatives of many past cartoonists are tracked down, it is quite shocking to find that they have few, If any, examples of the cartoonist's work preserved. The Cartoon Museum was housed in an old nightclub building making use of the dance floor and bandstand as a maze-exhibit, changed monthly with items loaned from fellow collectors filling any void.

While working for the San Francisco EXAMINER in 1962, the

← IN THE PICS JIM IVEY, with the late FRANK KING,on the artist's 84th. birthday,the cake with a SKEEZIX on it. King at the Comics Museum confab points out his original GASOLINE ALLEY strip in the exhibit. In April 1968,the National Cartoonist Society had a get-together at CM.The candid shot shows(L.toR.)Leslie Turner(Capt.Easy),Frank King,Dick Moores(now doing Gasoline Alley),Charles Kuhn (of Grandma),Ray Helle(The Flibberties),Dick Hodgins Jr.(assistant on "Half Hitch" the new Hank Ketchum strip, and Jim Ivey. Dick Hodgins Sr.is hidden,center. H.McKee Barkley,grandson of McKee Barkley,long-time Baltimore Sun cartoonist, presents Ivey with a walking stick carved into a political cartoon by Sr.Barkley.

San Francisco Museum of Art asked to permit an exhibition from my collection. The select show of 120 cartoons was so seriously well received, I allowed the museum to circulate the show as a loan exhibition. In three years, the exhibition visited 14 museums and campuses in the U.S. and Canada. The experience convinced me that the collection should somehow be open to the public and the idea of a special museum was born.

Rube Goldberg wrote his introduction to the exhibit.. "There are those, unfamiliar with the great scope of cartooning, who believe that cartoonists are irresponsible zanies accidentally gifted with the facility of putting scrawls on paper to amuse the children. They do not realize that it is a painstaking craft--a calling that requires a vast fund of knowledge acquired through concentration and experience. Cartoons are drawn not only to amuse but to bring a visual understanding of human foibles and social injustices."

Besides viewing the original drawing of his favorite comic, a visitor could have his caricature drawn in one minute for one-dollar with "dissatisfaction guaranteed". This sidelight started to give the museum a bit of atmosphere and was perhaps one of the most popular delightful crowd pleasers.

Also, one could leaf through 1,000 volumes from the Cartoon Library..or purchase pop posters, old satirical magazines and books, three-dimensional cartoon figures and connected items in this line.

Original cartoons were available on sale. It was amusing to watch the parents bring their children into the museum thinking it was only for the kids then, the same parents getting deeply immersed in the material. Daddy would say.."A little longer, just wait a few minutes..." Even the piles of older comic-books proved popular to all kids from 8 to 80.

The museum received national and international publicity, the mail brough clips from publications from coast to coast and from European countires that ran stories on the museum.

I wonder If the cartoon world realizes that no American political cartoonist has ever been successfully sued? This says something big and important about our freedom-of-the-press that is taken for granted. And something to the "antiestablishment" howlers: Freedom of the press in the U.S. is no empthy phrase! A political cartoon is always an exageration of a point.

However, foreign cartoonists, both present and past, have not fared so well. Many have been jailed or threatened with death by their own governments. Honore Daumier, given a 6-month prison sentence in 1832 for a political cartoon that King Louis Philippe did not like. Spanish cartoons, had to carry the censor's stamp in order to be published, in the past.

Of course, the Soviet cartoonist does not attack any personalities in his government. The late 1950's had Khrushchev with a jack-hammer knocking down a snow-man..depicting in the Pravda-Boris Efimov sketch, the Soviet leader attacking the Cold War with a happy smile, it created a big sensation everywhere, in and out of the cartooning world.

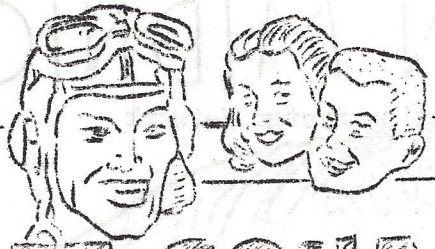
But, the greatest story I believe is...artist Art Young, who did a cartoon for the National Labor Organization, showing an Associated Press man pouring "lies", "supressing facts", poisons and the like, into a giant pool like situation marked.."The News". Sued by the AP, Young slept through both of his trials for sedition, and after they were declared mistrials, the government prosecutor made a bid for Young's scratch drawing, showing Young asleep in his chair during the trial.

The pressure of freelance cartooning, combined with the details at the CM resulted in my decision not to renew a lease on the building in late 1968. The material in my possession, grows in volume. I hope that a suitable "angel" agrees to give this artform a dignified setting and handle the many buiness details involved..the Cartoon Museum will reopen--with all my material and all my enthusiasm and support. (End)

****

Now political cartoonist for the Orlando, Florida newspapers, Jim Ivey is listed in Who's Who and in American Art, and now publishes a magazine on cartoon-world.

WE REMEMBER RADIO.....



Captain Midnight's SECRET SQUADRON HEADQUARTERS

Pierre Andre's "C-A-P-T-A-I-N M-I-D-N-I-G-H-T....." every weekday evening at 5:30 PM, coming from our table-model radio there on the desk via Mutual Broadcasting Chicago, was a beautiful call for fifteen minutes of action, suspense, mystery and a bit of hard humor here and there. As the "kid" shows went, it was a topper!

Captain Midnight, so the story goes, had to go to work for his government in throwing over the evil forces by the request of a Major Steel. Coming to the rescue of his friends, Joyce Ryan, Chuck Ramsey, the Captain daring odds that would stagger any hero anywhere...finally makes the scene in his Sky-King super-plane, and from the first episode aired September 30,1940 and now in the hands of most tape-collectors, he continued to play the super-hero. With "Ichabod Mudd", a most trusted plane mechanic, the Captain flew into and out of many adventures that did involve the Japanese, the Nazis, and any and most all villians everywhere one could think of. (That rescue coming as the clock strikes exactly--midnight.)

Ivan Shark, Gardo, The Leach, The Iron Fist, and "The Mysterious Woman" were just some of those beloved villians we knew the Captain and his followers would catch up with, eventually. Perhaps in about each three to twelve installment-series.

In our 1940 s that we rmember best these radio-shows that still linger in our minds, Jack Bivens played Chuck, and we had a story on him in HeroHobby #8, as a bomber crewman in WW2, Icky was played by Sherman Marks, a TV producer now and Ed Prentis, the Captain, we see now and then on daytime television, and as a police captain on the old Dragnet series.

It is no secret that the Captain Midnight creators, Will Moore and R.M.Burtt also wrote SKY KING, ADVENTURES OF JIMMY ALLEN and HOP HARRIGAN, they were at the time as thrilled with flying and the gambling-glamour-glop of many in those not-so-swift 1930's and 1940's...and when CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT tried to adapt to TV, actors Richard Webb and Sid Melton wore the familiar S-Q helmets, but in some markets, they became Jet Jackson,Flying Commando--and his pal. The Ovaltine Co., more clearly..the Wunder Company, I feel were not too proud of the series. And to be a bit punily...no wunder. Cheap TV series with small budgets are always sad.

Those delightful premiums offered by the program are now collector's items. The Code-badges, later becoming a plastic whistle with de-coder on the side. A pretty blue whistle with red plastic side coder..I had to open mine out of curiosity to see what made it whistle..to find it was a large seed inside. More like a pea. I wonder what type of plant would have grown If I would have placed it in the soil and faithfully watered it daily?

The Captain Midnight hand books....Flight Commander Rings for the head SS kid on your block offered each year from 1941 to 1959....Shoulder patches, badges, the Aerial Torpedo Bomber..remember it had a load of bombs and a target to hit? The shake-up mugs...to mix that awful tasting Ovaltine with milk to ruin it.... how about the "Who Is The Sword contest"...the 1942 SS charts,codes,book of tricks and riddles, Plane Detector, American Loyalty Badge, Printing Ring that really worked? And how many of these would you like to have now?

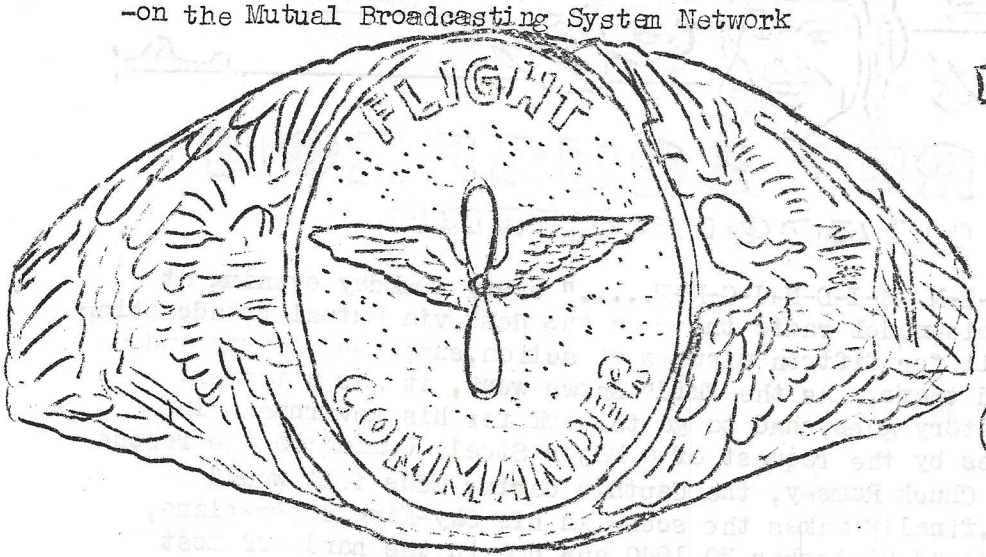
The COlumbia serial in 1942 starred Dave O'Brien in the title role, it was fun, and exciting. But, we also knew it was only an imposter of the original from the radio program, which WAS the real-thing.

CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT was one of those movies,comic-books--radio all-American heros. The Ovaltine people still own the CM copyright. I hope they use it again-soon!

PREMIUM PARADE

CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT --and his Secret Squadron

-on the Mutual Broadcasting System Network





FLIGHT COMMANDER Ring from the 1941 Radio Show.

If you had anOvaltine iner-seal from that brown glass container, from the people who sponsored the Captain Midnight radio program of 1941, you could have the beautiful metal Ring illustrated here. In the 1940's, most all premiums on radio offered by the sponsor were metal, that was before the war-years and later when plastic was used for everything.

FLYING CROSS
1942

If you were the top guy with your gang, then how about this Flying Cross from the 1942 radio-program..? Again, only a paper-seal from the Ovaltine glass jar, and this was an item that was yours free...now don't we wish we would have order many of them,at value-rate these items are going now?

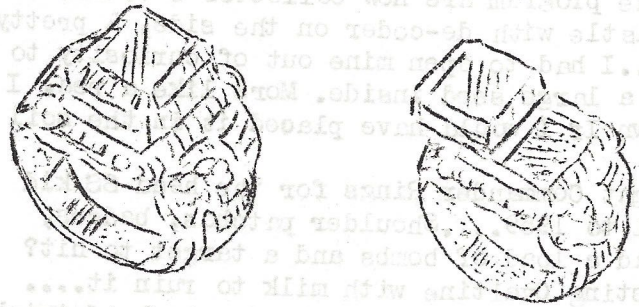
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Probably no item that was available as a premium other than the "secret-whistles" more...than anything was the "Secret-Ring".... and all programs from "Orphan Annie" to "Jack Armstrong" to "Tom Mix"..had theirs. And certainly, the "Captain Midnight" show had a fine one too.

SECRET SQUADRON HEADQUARTERS
360 N.Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

SECRET SQUADRON MYSTIC SUN-GOD RING

1946
****



This ring had one of those "dazzling Secret Compartments"...to hold secret messages, small items, or--whatever a good secret compartment was used for. Pressing the stone slightly, it would lightly glide along small metal grooves, which the directions reminded you to always keep the stone engaged in.



(ACTUAL RADIO BROADCAST)
FRED ALLEN SHOW
May 1,1940
CBS RADIO

This show written mainly by Artie Auerback and Herman Wouk, meeting in college, also Don Johnson another writer and director Bill Schorr, all pulled together to form a solid knit staff that gave Fred Allen the back-up and support he needed to grind out those 60 minute shows each week. With all this help and naturally many others, not mentioned or noted, it was usually credited to Fred the all over credit that held this "different" type of a comedy show together for so long. Here is a sample of what we are talking about. This is a "take-off" on a panel-quiz show that was heard regularly on radio at the time, you had to know Fred's sly dry-humor to appreciate this dialogue. For those that didn't "know" Fred and didn't get to "hear" him on radio...we say.."try"..."try"...to listen, concentrate....listen,...:

ALLEN: "And now, the Mighty Allen Art Players with a burlesque on one of radio's most popular programs...it's called, Information Tease, or The Guest Is Always Right, except on a Quiz show..."

VON ZELL:"This is station FOO,operating on a frequency that gets on your nerves, we bring you the time, brought to you by the makers of Bango cigars, when you hear the chiseler inhale his Bango, it will be exactly 9:48.."

PETER VAN STEEDEN: (bang) "Ow.! Where's my nose?.."

VON ZELL: "Stop snoring America..it's time for Information Tease! Yes, expertly unrehearsed, every question used the sender gets $5 and If you stump our experts, we send you last year's unbridged complete set of Farmer's Almanac, bound in burlap by our sponsers, Mother Murphy's Meatballs!" (fanfare)

ALLEN: "Yes, folks...Mother Murphy's Meatballs! The only meatballs that contain helium. The Mother Murphy Meatball is not another hamburger in pill form, it contains real quality liquid rubber, If you drop a Mother Murphy Meatball on the floor, don't be embarrased. It will bounce back on your plate.Have fun with Mother Murphy Meatballs..dribble them up and down your table, tie one on your spaghetti and play yo-yo...but buy them. Buy-spelled B*U*Y."

VON ZELL: "And now our board experts..."

ALLEN: "I thought you'd never ask..! We have myself, as mc, Tifton Battiman. Celebrated newspaper columnist, Franklin O.Baddams, better known as FOB. Next, famous sports writer and animated encyclopedia John Tieran,...."

PETER: "Oh, yes that's me..uh...with a gretting....a greeting, that's a common usage, hello--is actually a corruption of the Latin gladiators salute morituri te salutamus..."

ALLEN: "Don't show off, Mr. Tieran.."

PETER: "I was just warming up..."

ALLEN: "Oh, excuse me..and shut up.! Next, we have our noted music critic, and wit, Oscar Bevant...and as Beethoven said to Mozart, notes to you

there Mr.Bevant--ha-ha-ha-...oh well, let's move on..our first question from Mrs.Ima Wack,Rat Falls, Arkansas. Mrs.Wack says there are three colors in the American Flag...let's name them. Now..Mr.Tieran's hand is up. Now it's down. Now it's up. Now it's down again. Now it's up..."

VON ZELL: "Blue..?" (as Bevant)

ALLEN: "Right. Blue is one of the colors in the American Flag. Now what else? "

PETER: (as Tieran) "White and Red"...

ALLEN: "Amazing,gentlemen. You were to name only two,but got all three! Well,we are in great shape tonight, so let's try this one from Harley Drab, of Cheesecake,Ohio. Complete this rhyme..."I like coffee,I like tea, I like the girls and the girls like....." Can you finish it..?"

VON ZELL: "Gable?"

ALLEN: "Really...no, no, who is the greatest musical genesis alive today?"

VON ZELL: "Me!"

ALLEN: "Quite correct! I just don't see how you do it, gentlemen!"(Cheers,laughs.) "Well, we are relly rolling..from Mr.Roquefort Fumes,Bedspread,Iowa..he asks us to tell him...but wait...we need another commercial here, in fact, we need a lot of things here.....anyway here is our announcer,Milton Dross."

VON ZELL: "Have you tried a Mother Murphy Meatball lately? (Classy) Remember,with men who know meatballs best, butchers, gluttons, bicarbonate salesmen, It's Murphy's two to seven. Later returns and odds will be read as they come in."

ALLEN: "Thank-you, I think. Now, let's answer this question quickly, now...name the following fish by these sounds they make under water...! Mr.Tieran?"

PETER: "I wasn't doin nothin...I just had my hand up wettin my cowlick."

ALLEN: "I can tell you one thing, you are going to be in trouble If you try to catch my eye to leave the room from now on..! Oh, well then... Ah, yes...Mr.Bevant..there do you know the answer to the question..?"

PETER: "Don't bother him...he's asleep."

ALLEN: "Did he leave a message? "
"Alright then, Mr. Tieran...listen to this sound and tell me the name of the fish making this sound under water."(sound of bubbling water)

PETER: "Very simple, that's a fellow in Liggett's drugstore finishing a chocolate soda."

ALLEN: "Wait a minute..you said a fish?"

PETER: "The man's name is Trout."

ALLEN: "Elementary gentlemen, but let's send $5 to everyone for sending in these absolute brain-breaking questions, you so easily answered."
(CASH REGISTER RINGS)
ALLEN: "Ah..Mr.Bevant & Mr.Tieran, get your hands out of the cash register!"

RADIO PROGRAM TAPES

1296. BABY SNOOKS-"Snooks at the movies" Danny Thomas as postman-VG-AFRS 30m
1297. AL PIERCE-Selling Hotdogs,CBS-VG--Feb.7,30m-1940 "Elmer Blurt and the gang".
1298. ARCHIE ANDREWS-The Halloween Party--October 30,1948-Sat.morning-NBC-30m E
1299. ARCHIE ANDREWS- "Wallpapering the Room" 7/17/48---NBC-30m-Excellent.
1300. AMOS AND ANDY--"Andy and Lady Green's Wedding"--4/3/1939----15m CBS VG
1301. DADDY & ROLLO--"Rollo wants a bike"--15 minutes-MBS--11/11/1942--E
1302. JACK OAKIE Show--with guest Joe Penner---1936----CBS--30m VG
1303. GLAMOUR MANOR---with Kenny Baker starring and guest Jack Benny 10/3/46 Colgate
1304. THE GREAT GILDERSLEEVE-AFRS-30m-G 30m- Hal Peary-Jolly Boys Halloween party.
1305. FIBBER McGEE -without the ailing Molly-4/29/39-Dr.Gildersleeve"forgetting"G
1306. FIBBER McGEE-11/23/41-Molly buys Clay-Mine stock. G (Johnsons' Wax spots)30m
1307. FIBBER McGEE-11/26/46-Uncle Dennis leaves the house in a mess.G-30m
1308. MUTUAL NEWS FLUFFS--Cedric Foster,Tony Marvin,etc...30m G
1309. GREAT GILDERSLEEVE-10/26/54 LeRoy wants more attention-15m E(Better Farm mag)
1310. GILDERSLEEVE-12/7/54-NBC-15m-Grand Opera coming to Summerfield,Ju.Hooker Chm.
1311. GILDERSLEEVE-3/7/57-water faucets dry-up,repairman quits at the reservoir-25m
1312. BILLIE BURKE-4/27/46-Sat.AM at 11:30,Listerine spots,a tramp at the door-30mE
1313. ALDRICH FAMILY-2/20/40-Jello-Henry raises pets for Mother's BD gifts-30m E
1314. McGEE & MOLLY-Molly returns home from illness,finds unpaid bills-4/18/39-30m G
1315. BLONDIE-AFRS-50's-A.Rutherford as Blondie-Dagwood wins lunch prize-30m E
1316. McGEE & MOLLY- 2/14/39-without Molly-snowed in,frozen water pipes.H.Peary 30m
1317. FIBBER McGEE & MOLLY-3/7/39-MgGee opens a sandwich parlor-30m G
1318. ARCHIE ANDREWS-3/15/47-(Swift)Archie sings at Mrs.Lodge's party-30m G
1319. GILDERSLEEVE--AFRS 10/5/49 Gildy champerones Marjorie to the dance-30m G
1320. LUX RADIO THEATRE-"To Have & Have Not"Bogart,Bacall, 10/14/46-60m Wm.Keighley
1321. ONE MAN'S FAMILY-Book 79-Chpt.1 & 2, 15m each..Jack fails to get
1322: partnership in law firm and wants to move to L.A. (VG)
1323- Book 80/chapt.19 & 20-15m each--Pinky home from Stanford,flunking out,
1324: borrows money from Father Barkour..with commercials.(VG)
1325. GUNSMOKE-first-audition show-30m 7/13/49 Howard Culver as Matt Dillon-VG
1326. OUR MISS BROOKS-wrong movies are shown in class--30m VG
1327. SUSPENSE-"Deep,Deep,My Love"--with Lloyd Bridges--30m--VG
1328. SUSPENSE-"The Marvelous Borastro" 4/3/44--starring Orson Welles-30m VG
1329. HEDDA HOPPER'S Diary--with Mickey Rooney 1946-VG 5-minute show
1330. HEDDA HOPPER'S Diary--with Lew Ayers, 1946 VG-5 minutes
1331. ROSEMARY---Bill has regained his memory--7/12/46--15minutes-VG
1332. SUSPENSE--"Fear Paints a Picture"4/13/43-B.Benaderet,girl 23 inherits money.G
1333. SUSPENSE--"King's Birthday"-8/28/43-Deloros Costello,Geo.Zucco-(Nazis)hum-G
1334. DUNNINGER-Jane Pickens,George McManus,April 1944-AFRS-30m-good show-mentalist
1335. SUSPENSE-"Banquois Chair"-6/1/43-Donald Crisp,John Loder,Hans Conreid-great!
1336. MEET THE MEEKS--5/15/48--planning a vacation is a problem-30m G
1337. RED RYDER "Timberland Tornado"-30m (Red tangles with tough timber grabbers)G
1338. ARCHIE ANDREWS-Archie and the gang go Christmas shopping-12/13/47-NBC 30m-G
1339. ARCHIE---the family go on a picnic,Jughead,etc...8/21/48--NBC--30m G to #E.
1340. MARK TRAIL-2/10/50 Small Deers story-"statuetts in a box premium offer"-30m G
1341. BUSTER BROWN GANG-Smiling Ed with all-5/15/48---G to VG---lots of fun. 30m
1342. BUSTER BROWN GANG-Smiling Ed again 10/14/44--G--30m (Froggy,Midnight,etc.)
1343. MARK TRAIL-9/20/50--"Indian Revenge"--30m, Good show of a mad murderer VG
1344. WOODY HERMAN Show-2/9/46--25m--Wildroot series-but commercials cut--G
1345. DUKE ELLINGTON-at the Ritz-Carlton--7/26/39---G 30m
1346. JOHNSON FAMILY-"Society of Corpuscles"-8/14/45-15m G
1347. JOHNSON FAMILY-"Grandpa and the Gorilla"-8/25/44--15m G
1348. UNCLE EZRA-"Indian Summer" poem from National Barn Dance show-segment 5m G
1349. GREAT GILDERSLEEVE--audition show-Hal Peary-5/16/41 30m-G(initial format).
1350. WHATEVER BECAME OF--THE GREAT GILDERSLEEVE(#2)Willard Waterman--25m G
1351. THREE SHEETS IN A WIND-audition show,Brian Donlevy-1940's-Chapt.1-30m G
1352. MARK TRAIL--"The Bigfoot Killer"-Friday 2/15/50--30m VG
1353. HALLS OF IVY-Ronald Coleman-5/17/50-"Sending Papa to Ivy"-VG 30m great show.

JOHN COOPER, Route One,Box 371,CLARKSBURG, WEST VIRGINIA 26301
**Send your catalog, and I'll send you my complete lists...of my Radio Tapes..!

"SIDEKICKS" -- HOME ON THE RANGE, WITH OUR OLD PALS

by Chuck Leuliette

"Go get 'em, Roy!" "Go get 'em,Gene!" "Go get 'em,Hoppy!" Substitute the name of any Western hero--Tex, Cisco, Wild Bill, Crash, and others--and you have a line of dialogue that was spoken in practically ever B-Western by the hero's comical sidekick.

The sidekicks played an important part in their pictures. For one thing, they were the ones that the hero explained his plan to, letting the audience in on it too. Since sidekicks were usually slow on the draw, slow with their fists, slow with their horses, and slow with their courage, the hero had to look good by comparison! And it wasn't easy to make some of those tight-lipped, tight-jawed, tight-trousered heroes look good. Most of the sidekicks were better actors than the men they backed up, and it took a lot of courage and talent to be as good as they were and at the same time not to be so good that they would make the hero look like a bad actor.

The Indian sidekicks, of course, were not funny. Tonto had no sense of humor. The Lone Ranger had to supply his own comedy relief when he assumed the guise of the grizzled old prospector. Red Ryder's Indian sidekick,Little Beaver, was as quiet as Tonto, and Pahoo Ka-Ta-Wha (Wolf Who Stands in Water), who was the sidekick of TV's Yancy Derringer(played by Jock MaHoney)was even quieter. He was a mute who only talked with his hands and the shotgun he carried under his blanket. His real name..was Brand X. (Top that one.)

The rest of the sidekicks,however, were a little more human. You even suspected that they had more fun than the heroes did. For example,a sidekick never hesitated to complain when he was hungry or thirsty or saddlesore,while the only time thehero showed discomfort came when he got wounded in the left shoulder.(That's the only place a hero was ever wounded.)Heroes usually spoke perfect grammar and shaved and bathed daily; sidekicks could use more colorful language and looked upon hygiene and grooming as sissy stuff. They got to hang around saloons and dance halls listening for clues and gossip.

But being a sidekick wasn't all one big picnic. They got beat up a lot, and were made fools of even oftener. Sidekicks got thrown in watering troughs, kicked by mules,knocked down stairs, jabbed in the seat by pitchforks,knocked into cactus patches, lassoed and dragged down dusty streets,chased by bulls, bucked by wild broncos, and usually got bullet holes in their hats..big enough to stick their fingers through. After an experience like this, they were expected to say something funny or play their guitars or concertinas, and at the end of the picture they loyally followed the hero away into another dangerous situation into the sunset, and a wave with a smile to one and all.

One of the longest running partnerships was between Leo Carillo(Pancho), and Duncan Renaldo(The Cisco Kid). The team starred in

(con't.on page 31)

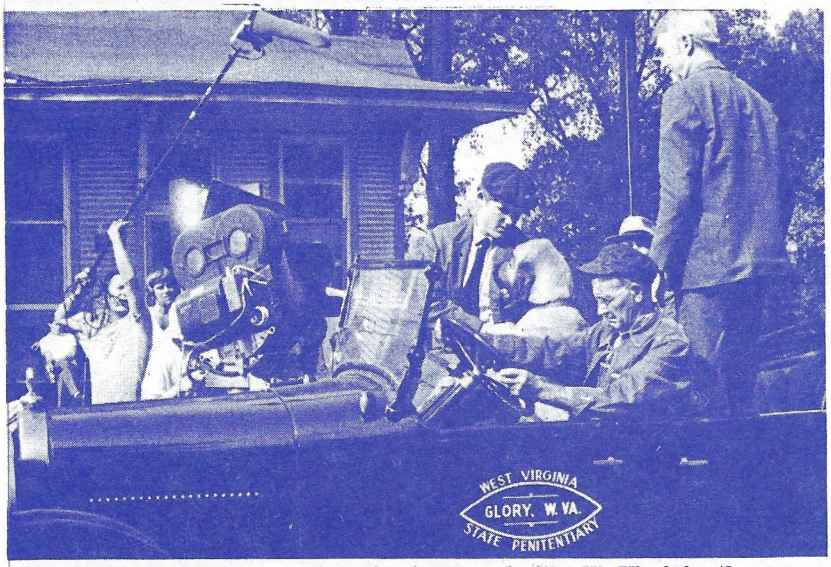
-SIDEKICKS

George "Gabby"Hayes with Roy Rogers in Republic's "Roll On Texas Moon"-1946,W.Va's Fuzzy Knight with Bob Baker in Universal's "Courage Of The West"of 1937 with Baker the sidekick of Johnny Mack Brown later as he faded into the sunset forever. 2nd.row,Wally Vernon with Alan "Rocky"Lane in Republic's 1944 "Stagecoach To Monterey",Al "Fuzzy"St.John with "Lash" LaRue in the PRC 1947 "Ghost Town Renegades". 3rd.Row--Martin Garralaga was "Pancho" here to Monogram's 1945 Cisco Kid played by Duncan Renaldo "In Old New Mexico, and quite a cast of sidekicks in this last photo from the Columbia 1944 release "The Vigilantes Ride" that starred Hoppalong Cassidy's sidekick with his own starring role..Russell Hayden, not seen in this still, that has Shirley Patterson deep in dialogue with co-star Bob Wills surrounded by his "Texas Playboys"...and peeping through in the center is Dub Taylor, after numerous sidekick roles even to Charles Starret, has now found much work on recent television. Some sidekicks...are still kicking.!





Columbia's "Fools' Parade!"

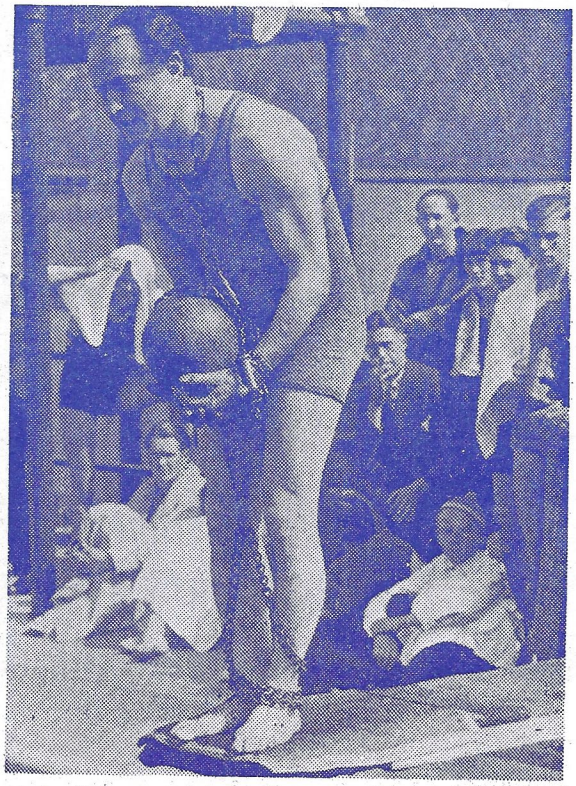


FILMED ENTIRELY ON LOCATION in Moundsville, W. Virginia, there were amazingly few changes made so that the town looked like it did in the mid-thirties, when the story takes place. Many local people appeared as extras.

'Ma Perkins'



Virginia Payne as Madame Arcati.



Harry Houdini prepares to dive into pool with ball and chain.

ON THE AIR EVERY WED. NITE!
FRED ALLEN
KENNY BAKER
PORTLAND HOFFA
AL GOODMAN'S ORCHESTRA
THE TEXACO WORK-SHOP PLAYERS
TEXACO STAR THEATRE
presented by
TEXACO DEALERS
COLUMBIA NETWORK
WKBW—9:00 P.M. EST

EVERY SATURDAY NIGHT
Alka-Seltzer
NATIONAL BARN DANCE

BORIS KARLOFF
WILL THRILL AND CHILL YOU TONITE
INNER SANCTUM MYSTERIES
KDKA 8:30 E.D.T.



Saying goodbye before their vacation are Jackie Kelk who plays the part of Homer and Charita Bauer who's Mary in The Aldrich Family. The program returns August 21st.

MA PERKINS-ON STAGE....

COLUMBIA'S "FOOLS' PARADE!" FILMING HERE IN THE W.VA. MOUNTAINS...
and--SOME OTHER THOUGHTS.

For 27 years, at 1:15 every weekday afternoon,EST, CBS sent out over their radio network, a super soap opera, of 15-minutes. Not only was it true to form in that it was sponsored by a soap product("And, now, Oxydol's own Ma Perkins..."said announcers Dick Wells and Marvin Miller at the start of that long-running program,)but there was a number of good things to say about that serial drama set in the town of Rushville Center where Ma operated the county lumberyard.

But, the best one is that the star of the show, "Ma", was played all those years only by one actress...VIRGINIA PAYNE. And after the final show, the 7,065 performance, she talked a bit with her loyal unseen fans, telling them about her un-matched record of never missing a radio performance and If anyone would like to write her at her home, she would like to hear from her fans. That final show was heard November 25th.,1960. A special Thanksgiving dinner at Ma's house, with everyone around the big heavily-loaded table, wrapping up all the plots, sub-plots and Ma giving thanks, in all kinds of ways.

However, Virginia Payne has been working steadily, thank-you. And right before her fans in the audience, live. "Blithe Spirit" is the vehicle she toured in, and in real life is a bouncy, bright person with a great outlook in life.

She is out-spoken, in a soft-voice...toward her feelings about the decline of radio. "I personally feel very sorry that radio has taken the turn it has. We have taken away all the good drama and readings, and substituted them with constant small talk and records. Unlike England and Canada, we have not preserved the quality of radio. The radio serial was most challenging, of all broadcast media. You had to create a real character, with only..your voice. The audience contributing made it wonderful, they had to create along with you, and they remembered what not only you created, but what they did too!"

Columbia has finished filming a new feature, "Fool's Parade!" in the northern part of West Virginia..in Moundsville, where the state penitentiary is located. James Stewart and Kurt Russell are ex-convicts who are being pursu ed by a corrupt prison guard,knowing they have saved $25,000 before being put in prison. The photo shows Kurt,Strother Martin, and 16-year old Kathy Cannon's first film. Much of the action occurs at the local train station where Kurt,Stewart and Martin try to escape the crooked authorities who will stop at nothing to catch them. Before the film was ready for the first frame to be shot....thousands of dollars worth of scenery was destroyed in a fire that made Associated Press space in newspapers around the country.

We worked in local radio here with Jay Randolph. His father is U.S. Senator, Jennings Randolph of W.Va. Later in TV. We found him to be a good guy. Some of the older people around him had told him they thought some good advice...to get out of broadcasting, and go into politics, like his father. Jay went to St.Louis, got a job at KMOX-Radio, live-broadcasts at night from"Stan's and Biggies", the Stan Musial restaurant, I heard him all the way from there to here...on my R-A-D-I-O. Then, on to Dallas, to eventually get a break to broadcast the Dallas Cowboys games. And came last Fall...we meant to mention before this..but Jay was very much part of the NBC-Radio Network's..."Super-Bowl" playoffs...his play-by-play was great for a West Virginia boy, not long out of the mountains. About 7-years.

The Oscar-cast was a ho-hum this year without Bob Hope's gags. And when it did come time for him...he was not good enough to save the "Patton" suspense show. TV'S best thing of the past year..."All In The Family",at last,something fresh,no matter how you look at it. (End)

HOUDINI'S VOICE IS HEARD

(Since the Magician's death, over 44 years ago, Milbourne Christopher has hoped to talk with Houdini again. If it was at all possible, to return "from the dead.")

In a dark corridor of an old red brick laboratory in West Orange, New Jersey, four men stood breathless as the voice of Harry Houdini was heard for the first time in 44 years.

But, the voice of the greatest magician, so many say, was not coming from the grave, as many had hoped it would ever since the skeptic Houdini vowed to return from the spirit world If it could be done.

The voice came from a 3-inch cylinder, turning on an old machine in the lab once used by its inventor, Thomas A. Edison.

The story of discovery of Houdini's voice on records was told by Christopher, past president of the Society of American Magicians. Believing the cylinder and five others like it are the only recordings in existence of the voice of the great illusionist and escape artists who died on Halloween of 1926, he said the six--the earliest type of phonograph recording-were found recently among the effects of another famous magician, Johm Mulholland, who died in February two years ago.

"John had once mentioned to me that he thought he had such a thing, but had never been able to find it", Christopher says. When a friend was sorting thru the effects he found them in a carton of odds and ends, hidden in a large rolled-up photograph.

"The cylinders sat mute for lack of a machine to play them, until someone remembered that early Edison phonographs were on display at the Edison National Historical Site in West Orange, N.J."

Christopher and his companions drove there with two machines being tried and failing...a third was brought out. "We were in a dark corridor because there was too much traffic noise in the lab"..says Milbourne. "At 15 minutes past noon, the voice of Houdini came out of the big morning-glory horn there attached to the machine."

"His first words were: "Ladies and gentlemen, my latest invention, the water torture cell. There is nothing supernatural about it....."

The voice then described the famous act, in which Houdini had himself locked into stocks, hauled upside down, and lowered into a steel grill cage inside a huge glass-fronted tank filled with water.

"I claim, said the recorded voice, "It is impossible for anyone to get air in the position I'm locked in the cell."

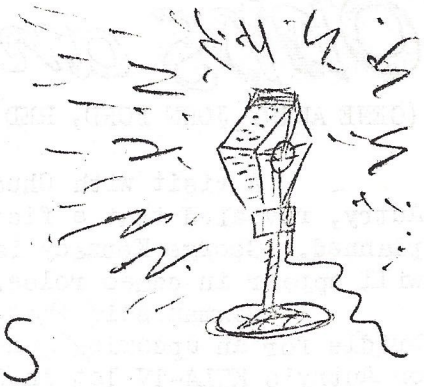
Another cylinder was along the same line, containing an offer of $1,000 to anyone who could prove he could get air in the "water cell". In Houdini's act, the magician would invite a number of people from the audience on the stage to inspect the tank. The glass was also used for the magician's assistant to peep through the curtains that would surround the tank and see If everything was going ok, or the glass would be smashed for the rescue.

The Houdini buffs believe the records were made not onstage, but while Houdini was practicing his speech, or just having fun with the machine.

The recordings did not reveal the secret of the water torture cell. That went with Houdini to his grave.

Houdini promised to try to return from the grave as part of his campaign to expose phony spiritualists. Countless persons have sat in seances on Halloween, the anniversary of his death, waiting for his voice.

Mrs. Houdini, who died in 1943, had a secret code and offered $10,000 to any medium who could summon her husband's spirit. But, after a seance in Hollywood on the 10th anniversary of his death in 1936, when Houdini did not speak or open the pair of locked handcuffs he said he would, If it were at all possible to do from the grave, she gave up hope. (End)



PLEASE HELP

I AM LOOKING FOR COLLECTORS....

TO TRADE.....

OLD RADIO TAPES

Recently, I have become interested in collecting Old RADIO Show Tapes, As a beginner in this Hobby, I do not have many tapes to trade. I am, However offering the following Ttems...TO TRADE....

MAGIC MAGAZINES.....single issues and volumes
MAGIC EQUIPMENT.....New & Used
MAGIC BOOKS.....New & Used-many Scarce items
MOVIE BOOKS.....About the Stars
MOVIE POSTERS.....Full Color Reproductions
Miscl. BOOKS.....Prior 1925 Editions

FOR:

--Any of the Following RADIO Tapes (programs):

MAGIC DETECTIVES.....Blackstone, Chandu,etc.
SHERLOCK HOIMES.....Hercule Poroit,etc.
Charlie Chan.....Boston Blackie
and other Detective Shows
SUSPENSE.....House of Mystery
Inner Sanctum.....THE SHADOW
Errie Tales....Creaking Door...and other Suspense Type Shows
Great Gildersleeve...Burns & Allen, Amos & Andy, Fibber McGee & Molly,
Fred Allen....and other COMEDY CLASSICS.
Lone Ranger...TOM MIX...X-Minus 1....Hoppalong Cassidy.
Sgt. Preston....Captain Midnight...and other adventure Series.

***The above is just a partial listing of the shows I am interested in trading for. Please...send your list of tapes to trade and I will send you my list of Movie items available.!
***If you are interested in MAGIC items please...send a want list as I have thousands of items with a constant turnover which prevents my running an accurate listing here. Many of the items I have are very scarce both in the Magic Books and in the Magic Apparatus.

DAVID R. KLAIBER
70 MARINE DRIVE
NORTH TONAWANDA, NEW YORK 14120

ODDS and ENDS

(GENE AUTRY, JOHN FORD, RED RUSSELL, B-WESTERNS, Etc.)

--by Buck Walton
Coffeyville Community Jr. College, 11th & Willow
Coffeyville, Kansas 67337

A visit with Chuck Bowman, a friend and former employee of Gene Autry, revealed that a fictional film inspired by Autry's career is being planned. George Kennedy is the probably star. Many of the B-Western stars will appear in cameo roles.

Bowman said that a collegue is writing a story on Champion's pistol bridle for an upcoming gun magazine. Also, a new Gene Autry museum is located on Autry's KTLA-TV lot in California.

Sifting through data in "The All Time Million Seller Records", I noticed that Gene had five songs that sold over a million records each. The songs and years in which the milliom mark was reached are: "Here Comes Santa Claus"-(1950), "Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer"-(1950), "Silver Haired Daddy"-(1939), "Frosty The Snowman"-(1952) and "Peter Cottontail"-(1955).

The only other western movie stars to have million sellers were Jimmy Wakely, "Slippin' Around"-(1949) and Tex Williams for "Smoke, Smoke, Smoke"-(1950). Gene's western albums are still selling.

Gene's Republic Recording Company broke into the rock field this past fall with "Outside Looking In" by the Heywoods. (That's about all.)

The Autry films contained several people who starred in their own theatrical or TV movies. Buster Crabbe ("Red Barry", "Tarzan", "Flash Gordon", "Buck Rogers") was a heavy in "Colorado Sunset", 1939. John Mahoney (Range Rider, Yancey Derringer, and Tarzan) was in "Rim of the Canyon" of... 1949. Dick Jones (Dick West, Buffalo Bill, Jr.) was in "Strawberry Roan"-1948. Gail Davis (Annie Oakley) was in "Wagon Team"-1952. Jimmy Durante was a comic in an early Autry film. Roy Rogers was in "Tumbling Tumbleweek"-1935, "The Old Corral"-1936 and was also in "The Old Barn Dance"-1938.

Barry Goldwater was Autry's superior during his military service. Berwyn, Oklahoma, changed its name to Gene Autry in 1941. Thanks to Chuck Bowman, a taped interview with Gene should supply some updated information on America's number one Cowboy..until "I'm back in the saddle again."

Speaking of cowboys....what other stars appeared as "Billy The Kid"? Johnny Mack Brown (1930), Roy Rogers (1938), Bob Steele (1940), Buster Crabbe and Robert Taylor (1941), Lash La Rue (1947), Jack Beutel (1946), Don "Red" Barry (1950), Audie Murphy (1950)-(my favorite in "The Kid From Texas"), and Paul Newman (1958). Did I miss any?

John Ford..has a long list of critically acclaimed films. However, he also has many "B" Westerns to his credit.

Before his directing chores, he played roles in "B" movies..directed by his brother, Francis. Beginning in 1917 with.."The Tornado", he directed, wrote, and appeared in several "B-westerns". 1917 was also the beginning of the "Cheyenne Harry" series with Harry Carey: Hoot Gibson also appeared in many of the Cheyenne Harry films. Ford's first feature was "Straight Shooting" with Carey in 1917. Carey produced many of the "Cheyenne" films. J. Farrell McDonald appeared in his first Ford-Carey film, "Roped" (1919). "Marked Men (1919) was re-made in 1929 ("Hell's Heroes", directed by William Wyler), 1936; "Three God-fathers", directed by Richard Boleslawaski, and 1948 (Ford's own remake.)

Buck Jones ("Just Pals" and "The Big Punch") and Tom Mix ("Three Jimps Ahead" and "North of Hudson Bay") also made silent Ford films. John Wayne appeared in three pre-"Stagecoach" Ford films: "The Hangman's Horse" (1928), "Salute" (1929), and "Men Without Women" (1930).

By 1930 Ford's "B" career was over, but he still had connections with "B" films. Stock footage of "Stagecoach" (1939) was used in at least two "B" westerns: "I Killed Geronimo" (1950) and "Laramie Mountains" (1952). Tom Tyler appeared in many Ford films beginning with "The Last Outlaw" (1936) and ending with "What Price Glory" (1952). Ward Bond, George O'Brien, and Bill

Henry appeared in many Ford films over the years. Tim Holt has sizeable parts in "Stagecoach"1939, and "My Darling Clementine"(1946). We give a big thanks to John Ford for his contributions to the splendid "B"-Western.

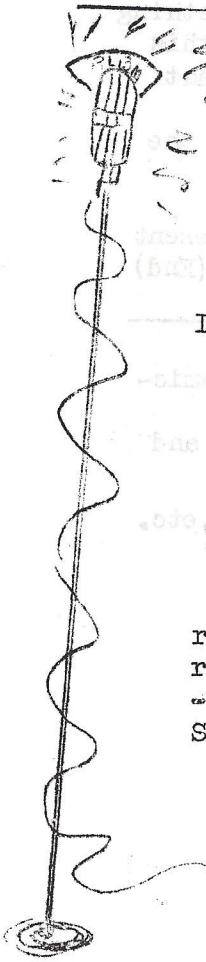
I lived in the same town with Reb Russell four years before I ever met him. Reb knew of my interestes in the "B-Western" and invited my wife and I over to exchange film talk, eat charcoaled steak and watch Reb's first western, "The Man From Hell" with George Hayes, Fred Kohler and the great Yakima Canutt.

Reb made 12 Westerns during 1934-35 on the strength of his notoriety as an all-American football player at Northwestern University. Knute Rockne said of Reb.."the greatest plunging fullback I ever saw!"

Reb first went to Hollywood with 13 other all-Americans in 1930 to make the "All-American". While there Reb became acquainted with Tom Mix who helped him get started in Westerns. While still under contract to Sol Lesser, Reb played briefly with the Philadelphia Eagles. Reb had a brief fling with the circus, a "bullwhip horse-riding act". Considered at one time for the "Lone Ranger" radio role, another series along that line also failed to develop and Reb left Hollywood after two years. He said that there were men doing routine jobs around his movie sets that had been making four times his salary when they were stars. He said.."I got out while I was ahead and come back to Coffeyville to make an "honest living"..!" Now this honest living consists of a thriving farming and ranching enterprise on a 2,500-acre spread in Nowata County,Oklahoma. Born in 1905 in Osawatomie,Kansas,Reb still has much of the energy he displayed on the gridiron and on the screen...while making some pretty good B-westerns.!

Coming back from a visit to the TOM MIX Museum in Dewey,Oklahoma where they have hundreds of Tom's personal things there on view, his saddle, many sterling silver items for Tony,his famous horse, and lots of other things such as numerous stills from his many films...I got to some real serious thinking about the B-western that has been so much of America and meant quite a lot to so many movie-fans over a goodly number of years.

No part of history should be lost or forgotten as the " B-western"



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era might be. Within 20-years, a few stars only of the B-western era will be living. Hundreds of their films are lost or rotting in attics, garages, etc. Someone must preserve the knowledge of this part of our culture.

Entertainment for youngsters today is very limited. Saturday morning cartoons on TV, now an then a Disney film at the theatre(only Disney and Columbia studios are making any money these days), it is too bad that here, as in New Zealand recently, the "B-western" can't play again at the neighborhood theatre, to good response! Adult entertainment is limited. Sex, violence are dominant themes of films and books..and plays. What a refreshing alternative would be the revival of the "B-western" to all the family. Once each semester a "B-western" revival at College Union of Coffeyville, Kansas, Community Jr. College, where I teach mathematics is lots of fun for everyone.

The passing of the "B-western" is an interesting commentary on our times. For over 20 years, a large segment of our culture supported these films to the point that they were the main staple of most studios and many theatres. The change could be simply a result of a change from rural to urban society or it could be due to a more complex change in the nature of man.

Of course nostalgia cannot be discounted. A steady diet of Saturday afternoons with the white hat hero when one is very young and impressionable is bound to store pleasant memories to be cherished. I was a regular ticket holder at the Cozy Theatre, Chetopa, Kansas; the Ottawa Theatre, Miami, Oklahoma; and the Baxter Theatre in Baxter Springs, Kansas, from 1948 to 1954.

It was a staggering blow to discover that the overly simplified world depicted in the B-western could never be duplicated in our real-life world. In the real world, we found the Good Guys are not all good and the Bad Guys are not all bad. (Sometimes. But hasn't the modern film just made a turn-around in plot, these days?) We learned quickly that we could not devote our lives to riding about the countryside saving run away wagons and to singing around the campfire, but that the bulk of our time must be spent earning a living, something that Rex Allen and Sunset Carson seemed never to do. But the escapism of this simple existence is still appealing. (Talk about beatnicks! It's a wonder that any of us after being brought up on such stuff, ever mounted to anything!)

It is reasonably certain that the B-Western will never return to the status that it once knew in the 30's, 40's, and early 50's. But this mad mathematician, (along with many other hard-core fans) is doing his best to preserve information concerning this unique American phenomenon so that present and future generations can at least have the opportunity to enjoy it! (End)

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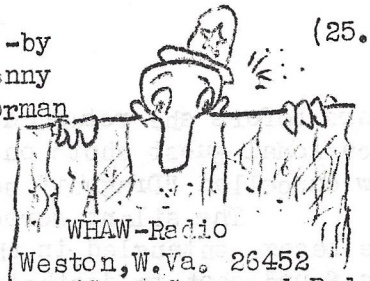
DAILY strips:
DICK TRACY Chester Gould-1957
SUPERMAN-Wayne Boring-1965
MANDRAKE-1958
GRANDMA-Chas. Kuhn-1965
NANCY-Ernie Bushmiller-1960
ALLEY OOP-V.T.Hamlin-1949
ANDY GUMP-Gus Edson-1943
(many pasteover corrections)
SCORCHY SMITH-Geo. Tuska-1954
DAVY JONES-1964 Al McWilliams, and Sam Leff
JIM HARDY-Dick Moores-1942

BRICK BRADFORD-Paul Norris-1957
LIL ABNER-Al Capp-1937
BRINGING UP FATHER-Jiggs-Vern Green 1963
MARK TRAIL-Ed Dodd-1965
MUTT & JEFF-Al Smith-1957
SNUFFY SMITH-Fred Laswell-1958
TWIN EARTHS-Al McWilliams-1962
BRONCO BILL-Harry O'Neill-1949
TARZAN-Dan Barry-1948
SMILIN JACK-Zack Mosley-1952
MUTT & JEFF-Al Smith(football)Sunday 1957

COMIC BOOK PAGES--Superman-from Action Comics #293 pages 1, 8, 9
TINY & TIMMY-2 mouse characters-full-page layout, beautiful artwork

this & that

-by
Danny
Norman



WHAW-Radio
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"WHERE ARE THEY NOW..? The Cowboys and other stars..."

There's a song in the country music field called, "Good Guys and Bad Men". The artist is Darrel Statler, who recounts in a pulsating rythmic beat the Saturday afternoons he spent at the local theatre watching, as the song relates.."Cassidy Hop A Long, Gene Autry Sing a Song, and Lash LaRue Crack His Big Black Whip.." It's a pretty accurate discription of something that we all miss but will never forget.

Their films are ageless, but alass...the heros are not. William Boyd(Hoppalong Cassidy) actually started out as a lover boy before he buckeled on his pearl handled revolvers to clean up the west.(See HH#20 for Hoppy story and pics in that issue.) He made 66 Hoppy movies between 1935 and 1948 but actually made more money from them on TV than in the theatre. He owned the TV rights. Today William Boyd is 75 years old. He lives in Southern California and has suffered ill health recently.

Russell Hayden, Hoppy's sidekick "Lucky" in 40 of those 66 films, has turned to producing and directing. He was responsible for the TV series "26 MEN". Now, Mr.Hayden is 68 years old and is writing a film script at his ranch in Southern California.

Three hundred horse opera marquee's carried the name of Ken Maynard. The late Ken Maynard had some financial problems as he wrote his auto-biography in his house trailer in San Fernando Valley in California. At 74 he was failing in health only up until his death a few months ago. He had been seen on Merve Griffin's TV telecast of the "great old stars".

Trigger, "The smartest horse in the movies"...cost Roy Rogers $2,400 in 1938. There is no doubt that Trigger helped quite a lot in winning the title, "King Of The Cowboys"..for Roy in 1943. Like many of the old western stars,Roy did have a job on a ranch in New Mexico punching cattle. Today Roy and wife, Dale Evans live on the Double-R-Bar Ranch near Los Angeles. Thereis a museum near the ranch where the original Trigger stands stuffed..in the place of honor. Roy is 57 and is still active in TV and public apperances. (On the 1950's television's "This Is Your Life" program that suprised Roy Rogers, producer Ralph Edwards had said, the show was so touching, even Trigger cried.)

Not all of the heros wore white hats. In fact one of them wore a feather, Jay Silverheels..who played Tonto in the Lone Ranger series was born on an Indian reservation in Canada. He appeared in 225 TV films of the series, before the show bit the dust. At 52, Jay is now running the Indian Actors Workshop in Los Angeles.

Another song goes..."And They Were The Days, My Friends.." But, the last words to "Good Guys,Bad Guys" sadly tells it like it is..."Now The Shoot 'Em Up Movies Are Past...Our Cowboy heros have hung up their Hats..!"

There were a few screen stars who used only one name. A young lady who captured men's hearts in the 30's and 40's...as Annabella. She was born in France with the name of Suzanne Georgette Carpentier, and it was after her new stage career in France that she adopted the name "Annabella". Making a number of films in France and touring Europe on the stage before coming to Hollywood, her first film in 1934 after arriving, was "Caravan" with Charles Boyer and Loretta Young. She appeared in several films including "Suez" with Ty Power. Her marriage to Power ended in divorce in 1948 and she returned to her native France. Today at 60 years of age, she lives in the French Pyrenees.

Dorothy Morris will probably be best remembered for her roles in war movies like "30-Seconds Over Tokyo" with Van Johnson and "None Shall Escape" in the late 40's. She took over the full time role as a housewife and it was ten

years before she returned to acting. Today Dorothy is 48 years old and does occasional guest shots on TV. Her latest appearance came in a segment of the now cancelled "Dragnet" series. But, she is ready to act, at a moment's notice.

The silent screen made Mary Mile Minter a millionairess. Unfortunately she became entangled in the sensational William Desmond Taylor murder case. He was found shot to death in his apartment and the murder was never solved. Miss Minter told officials that she was not involved and that she loved Taylor...but it ruined her career. Today she is 68 and has filed a three hundred and five. thousand dollar suit against a TV network that used her name on a show about a murderesses. She still lives in Los Angeles.

I should have titled this..."The Ladies and Jerks"....because we have just had the ladies..and now it's time for the..jerks. Webster defines "Jerk" as a "quick movement, a sudden pull or twist." The two fellows in question managed to twist their words and pull sudden laughter out of millions. For 21-years Chet Lauck and Norris Goff portrayed Lum & Abner, two 65 year old patrons of the "Jot 'Em Down Store" in Pine Ridge,Arkansas. Their hillbilly twang and humourous squabbles made them famous on the radio and finally in films. It took three hours in makeup to age the young men from radio for their screen-roles. The radio fun-filled series went off the air in 1954 and today Goff who portrayed Abner and other characters on the show, plays quite a bit of golf. Lauck who was Lum, and also did other characters, lives in Hot Springs Arkansas, where he runs a public relations firm. All of these people left a lot behind for us to enjoy..over and over again..via their films.

Research for a column like this starts slowly and then becomes..... increasingly easier after you've got your foot in the door, so to speak. Now that we are rolling....everyone remembers Mary Pickford(born Gladys Smith) as our American Sweetheart. An Academy Award winner in 1929, it has been nearly 40 year span since making another movie. A Canadian, co-founder of United Artists, she is very rich! Living on the famous "Pickfair" estate in Beverly Hills with husband Buddy Rogers, of the silent film era(WINGS). Married in 1936, Mary celebrated her 78th.birthday on April 8th, 1971.

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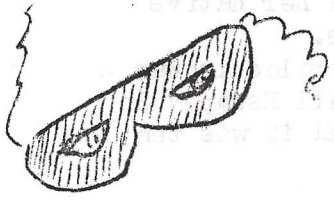
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If you watched "Matinee Theatre" on TV a number of years ago...then you remember John Conte. He was host of the highly aclaimed program for three years. A singer as well as an actor, today Mr.Conte lives in Palm Springs, California where he owns a hotel and TV station. He is 55 years old.

Who is the "sultry siren of the screen?" Briget Bardot?..Raequel Welch? Nope, it's Dorothy Lamour, at least it was back in the 1940's. Miss Lamour did several island type movies before she teamed with Hope and Crosby for the great "Road" pictures. Bob Hope has said that the Crosby-Hope series was thought up one day on a golf-course as a one-shot burlesque-type comedy-film romp. "The Jungle Princess" was Miss Lamour's first in 1936. Today she is married to William Howard III, and lives in Hollywood. Active in nightclubs and live-theatre.

Once an All-American football player at the University of Washington, once holder of the world shot-put record...once TARZAN...once Herman Brix, he is now Bruce Bennett and still acting at the age of 64. He is also known as Bruce Bennett, seen on the Lassie TV show, and takes it easy as a Real Estate salesman.

Pin-up pictures of this lassie have spent more time in foxholes than woldiers have. During the 1940's, she was the highest paid woman in the USA. Even though her legs were her fortune, she often said that Marlene Dietrich's were better. Today..BETTY GRABLE is still attractive and still working. At 54 her last bit of filming has been the commercial for the TV Geritol ad.

Van Mattimore is his name, and he was a pilot for the RAF during WW One with his most memoriable movie just happening to be the first one that ever received a winning Academy Award Oscar. The movie was "Wings" and Van's screen name is...RICHARD ARLEN. . Mr.Arlen has made over 250 movies, of all kinds and lives in San Fernando Valley North of Los Angeles...at 70, he too is very rich!

She was 19 when Howard Hughs picked her to star in the then controversial movie "Outlaw". The censors it seems were rather upset by the amount of Jane Russell that was showing. Today Miss Russell is 50 and still under contract to Hughs, wherever he is. In comparing today's films to "Outlaw", Miss Russell said "I would look like Little Bo-Peep Today.,"& sad,but true.

This Iowa farm girl took her screen test with actor Van Heflin, and went on to win an Oscar for her performance in "From Here To Eternity". She was starred in her own series on TV for eight years. Today Donna Reed..is the mother of four children and is married to TV's Town Owen, the producer, living in Beverely Hills...where else?

At one time a former silent star who was known as the most beautiful girl in Hollywood was earning $9000 a week. Her name...Delores Del Rio and she came to Hollywood from..yes, that's right..Mexico. Today Miss Del Rio is 65 and is still acting. She lives in Mexico.

And finally there's the radio star turned author, Vera Vague by name, a regular on the old Bob Hope Radio Show. She lives in Los Angeles now and writes children's Books under the pen name of Barbara Jo Allen..her real name.

Well, that's where they are now, a few of them anyway. Photoplay and Radio-TV Mirror have been doing similar look-back features, but perhaps the next time someone asks.."Whatever happened to..?"--you can put on that superior grin, and that says IKNOWSOMETHINGYOUDONTKNOW...and tell him!

And then there's the star of the Children's Program.."Cooper and Friends"..running successfully on television for several years here in W.Va., full of magic, Laurel & Hardy films, a ventriloquist dummy, hand puppets, and assorted but only heard, seldom seen characters behind the cameras and that ever abundance of shaving cream pies, long before Supy Sales was doing it....
Yes indeed...what ever happened to.....???

(End)

(Mr.Norman is a regular contributor to HeroHobby magazine, and works full time in the grand art of radio-broadcasting. Only because he has been a personal friend for so many years can I say something good here about him. But, due to the fact, that I have known him for so many years, keeps me from saying something good here about him.)(JRC).

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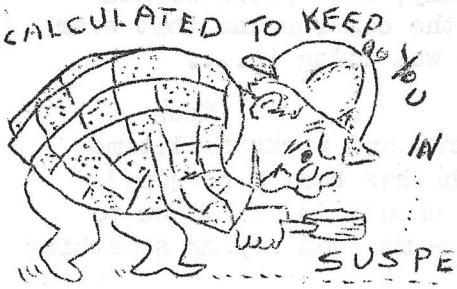
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"SIDEKICKS"-part 2-by Chuck Leuliette -con't from page 16)

in movies, radio,TV and were soon typecast into these roles.Pancho and Cisco were more susceptible to women than most of their rivals; pretty senoritas were always appealing to them for help. An imitation of Pancho was Tim Holt's sidekick,Chita Rafferty. As played by Richard Martin,this half-spanish,half-Irish character was always being sidetracked by women. Don Diamond played El Torro,the latin sidekick of Bill Williams,TV's Kit Carson. Gene Sheldon was Bernardo,Zorro's pal.Bernardo was a mute,who pretended to be deaf also to fool the bad guys....but by far, the largest group of sidekicks were the old-timers,and the greatest of them all was George "Gabby" Hayes. Bearded,grizzled,ragged,and outspoken,Gabby starred with 'em all: Roy Rogers,Gene Autry,Bill Boyd,John Wayne,Randolph Scott,Bob Livingston,Bill Elliott,John Payne,Sterling Hayden. From 1929 to 1950 he made over 160 films. Most of them,westerns. Then he became the host of his own TV show,showing parts of ole movies, ending the show with shooting the Quaker Oats gun at the camera.

The other sidekicks weren't as versatile as Gabby. Mostly they became associated with one star and stayed with him. Pat Brady, for example, is only remembered as being Roy Rogers' TV sidekick. Pat was the only sidekick to have a funny jeep, of all things. Gene Autry's movie sidekick was usually Smiley Burnett, but on radio and TV it was Pat Buttram. Both of them moved onto bigger things on TV. Smiley was the original engineer on PETTICOAT JUNCTION until his death, and Pat may be seen on that show's spinoff, GREEN ACRES.

Speaking of PETTICOAT JUNCTION, that program starred another famous sidekick, Edgar Buchanan. Seen usually as a bearded old-timer, this former dentist was practically unrecognizable when he shaved for the role of Uncle Joe. He had been an old-timer for 30 years, and suddenly he wasn't as old as he had looked in 1940. Years before he had been Hopalong Cassidy's sidekick, Red Connors on TV, replacing even older-timer in the movie series, Andy "California" Clyde, after Gabby Hayes.

In the 1930's and 1940's, "The Three Mesquiteers"----series was filmed using two heroes and one sidekick. A total of 53 pictures made, and the actors changed frequently. The heroes were played variously by Guinn "Big Boy" Williams,Al St. John, Harry Carey,Hoot Gibson,Bob Livingstone,John Wayne,Ralph Byrd, Duncan"Cisco" Renaldo, Bob Steele,Ray "Crash"Corrigan and Tom Tyler. The sidekick part was played by Guinn Williams when he failed to click as a hero, and later by Syd Saylor,Max Terhune,Raymond Hatton, Rufe Davis, and Jimmie Dodd, later the head Mouskeeter on television's "Mickey Mouse Club" show, of the late 1950's.

The greatest and longest-lasting of the Mesquiteer sidekicks was Max Terhune, Lullaby Joslin being his screen name, an expert at card tricks and sleight of hand which he used in his movies. His most unique talent was a a ventriloquist, and his dummy being known as Doc or Elmer, a constant and lifelike companion , a sort of sidekick to Max, and becoming virtually almost the fourth mesquiteer. Later Max made 24 movies in the "Range Busters" series for Monogram and eight pictures as Johnny Mack Brown's sidekick. (The Rangebusters appeared in HeroHobby #15.)

However, the "biggest" sidekick was probably Andy Devine, who made 137 films, and was the radio and TV sidekick(Jingles P.Jones)to Guy Madison's"Wild Bill Hickok". He recently had a small,regrettable role in that large regrettable movie, MYRA BRECKINRIDGE.

Lesser known,Snub Pollard was Tex Ritter's.Al "Fuzzy"St.John sidekicked for Buster Crabbe and Lash Larue. W.Va's Fuzzy Knight and Walter "Dub"Taylor moved up from sidekickdom to an important role in BONNIE AND CLYDE. Eddy Waller was the sidekick of "Steve Donovan--Western Marshall", surely you remember that one?

Now,alas, comical sidekicks have fallen on lean days. The only one left is Festus,Matt Dillon's friend, a descendant of Chester. Chester, as played by Parley Baer on radio, was a typical goofy sidekick. Dennis Weaver gave dimension to the character before he moved on to become a hero as McCloud. Ken Curtis plays Festus to the hilt: grizzled, cynical, tough.

But he's no Gabby Hayes. (End)

***** ********* *****

Chuck Leuliette, a Junior High School English teacher, of Clarksburg,W.Va., is a regular contributor to Hero Hobby magazine.

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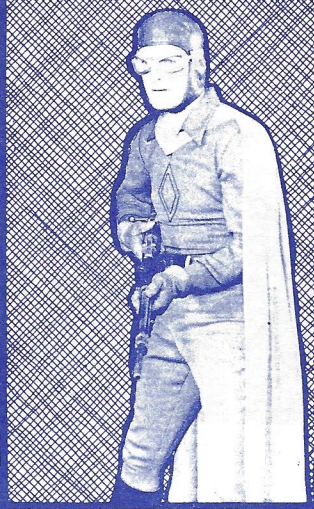
*All radio-cast, Curley Bradley,Leo Curley, Forrest Lewis,Willard Waterman,announcer Don Gordon,lots of pics,facts,etc.

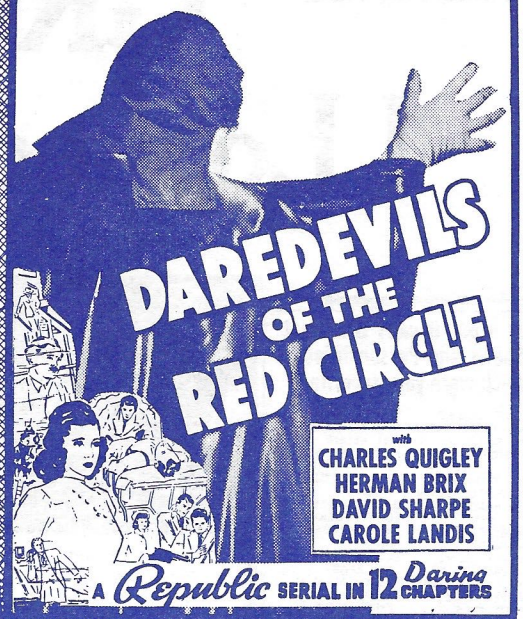
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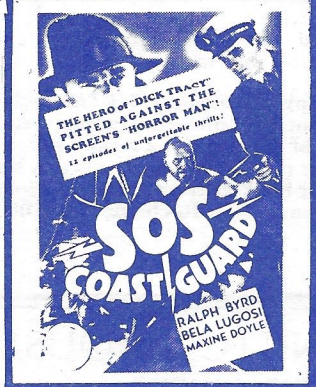
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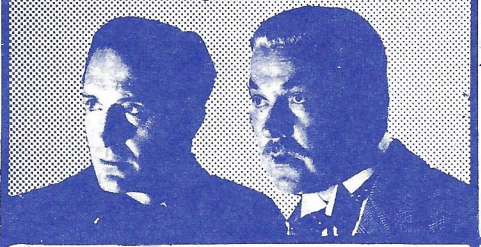
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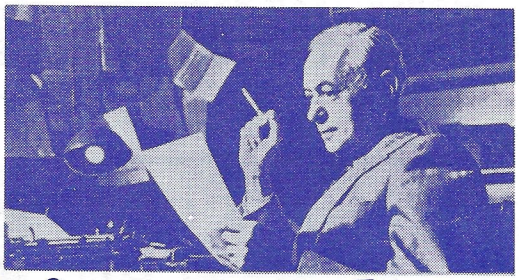
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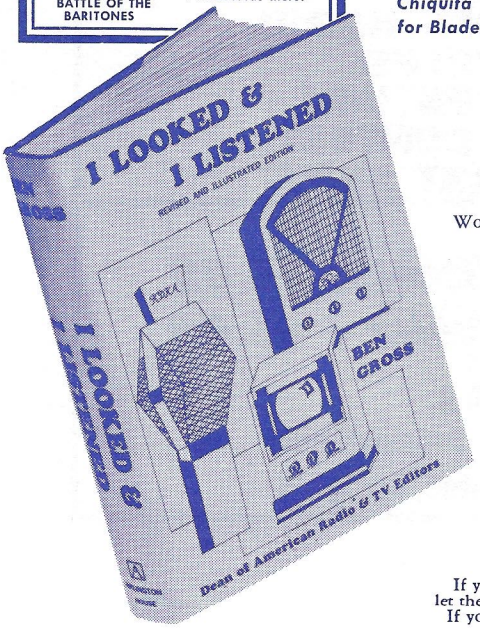


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